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due, he thinks, to English policing rather than to Scottish preaching. This must have been hard reading for Mr. Wauliss and his friends. Some years ago Mr. Mathieson expressed the same view in his *Religion and Politics in Scotland*, and we suggested in a review of that work,¹ that it was not difficult to produce evidence of that kind for almost any country or any period, and that the moral calibre of a community should surely be judged as much from what it thinks it ought to do as from what it does. The question is a delicate one and a discussion of it would be inappropriate in this place.

The curious will be interested in the excursions in which Mr. Lang discusses the question of Charles II. and the death of Montrose and the case of John Brown of Priesthill, the Christian carrier who was shot by order of Claverhouse in 1685, and they may perhaps regret that he "has not thought it necessary to enter more fully into the particulars" of the riot at St. Giles in 1637. Professor Hume Brown, it will be remembered, committed Jenny Geddes to the limbo of myth, and Mr. Lang seems disposed to agree with him (p. 26).

The volume is well produced and the only slips we have noticed are few and unimportant. A good reproduction of Honthorst's portrait of Montrose serves (appropriately enough as those of Mr. Lang's mind will think) as a frontispiece.

GAILLARD THOMAS LAPSLEY.

Thomas Harrison, Regicide and Major-General. By C. H. SIMPKINSON, M.A. (London: J. M. Dent and Company; New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 1905. Pp. xv, 304.)

It would be interesting to know what induced the publishers of the Temple Biographies to include in their list Thomas Harrison. It is impossible to make out of him a popular subject. Moreover, the facts in his life are too little known to make it possible to write a successful popular biography. Consequently, it would be better to have attempted a life based strictly upon thorough research. The writer seems to have felt that this was true, and has frequently quoted authorities, and sometimes referred to them, though in such cases he has timidly given nothing but a general reference, as for instance, *Somers Tracts*, or "Pamphlet in the British Museum". Such references are well-nigh valueless, and in the case of pamphlets in the British Museum they are positively ridiculous.

It would be interesting in the second place to be informed in respect to the motives which impelled a biographer of Laud to undertake a life of Harrison. It is the mode to-day in writing history to parade a complete impartiality, but here the display of impartiality is almost monstrous and seems to do violence to human nature. After reading the book, one longs for an hour of Samuel Johnson and appreciates what he meant when he said that he loved a good hater.

Mr. Simpson is not a good hater; nor yet a good biographer. The known facts about Harrison are few, and have almost all been given

¹ AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, VIII. 750-752.

to the public by Professor Firth. To these Mr. Simpkinson adds little, and since the whole is hardly sufficient to fill up the space at his disposal, he seems to have felt compelled to pad by giving a history of the times. Worse still, he is not master of this material, and so gives it to the reader almost in its raw state. A good half of his book consists of quotations, and long quotations. Thus in one chapter, after some brief extracts, he gives eight pages from Thurloe, followed immediately by a half-page from Roger Williams, which in turn is succeeded by almost as long an extract from the *Clarendon Papers*, after which comes a passage from Ludlow, which is then followed by a five-page letter from Thurloe to Monk, which is almost immediately succeeded by two more pages from Ludlow. This is not the way to write history. It is all the more to be regretted, since if Mr. Simpkinson had given his time and attention to a presentation of the beliefs, purposes and status of the Fifth-Monarchy men he would have had sufficient material to fill the space and would have been presenting matter which was germane and indeed essential to his subject. He, of course, gives us some information on these heads, but in a fragmentary and imperfect fashion.

What is said above sufficiently indicates his method of writing history; his ability goes but little beyond his method. His quotations are inexact; he is not discriminating in his use of authorities; his evidence occasionally fails to bear out the assertions based upon it; and his judgment is not sound, for he goes so far as to say that "there is good authority for considering" Harrison "to have possessed at one time even greater power in the army than Oliver Cromwell". The most valuable part of the book is the Appendix, containing the nineteen extant letters of Harrison. These have all been printed before.

John Graham of Claverhouse, Viscount of Dundee, 1648-1689. By CHARLES SANFORD TERRY. (London: Archibald Constable and Company. 1905. Pp. viii, 377.)

SOME fifteen years ago the anonymous author of *The Despot's Champion* wrote in her preface that the career of Claverhouse "has given rise to controversy quite out of proportion to its historical importance". And, relatively speaking, the professional soldier employed to suppress conventicles in the south-western counties, or even the heroic leader of a cause doomed to failure from the start does not loom very large among the countless persons and problems which crowd the pages of British history. Nevertheless, the representations of credulous and partisan martyrologists and the fame of *Old Mortality* and *Bonnie Dundee* have perpetuated in Claverhouse a figure grewsome and romantic. As a traditional bogey leagued with the devil, and as an heroic successor of Montrose, he continues to live.

Although Claverhouse found a defender nearly two centuries ago in the Jacobite *Memoirs of 1714*, his notable vindication first appeared in Mark Napier's three-volume work (1859-1862); since then he has